

FIGHTING AUSTRIANS WITH WATER

ITALIANS OPEN
FLOOD GATES
OF TWO RIVERS

Italians Let Loose Flood Northeast of Venice in Attempt to Prevent Teuton Movement to Flank Wing of Italian Army—Invaders Make Little Progress Around Asiago

Embattled for the protection of Venice and Lombardy, the Italians have opened the flood gates of the Piave and Sile rivers, northeast of Venice, to keep in check the Austro-German force which has crossed the Piave near Grisleria. In attempting to inundate the triangle whose apex is near San Dona Di Piave the Italians hope to prevent any enemy movement to flank the right wing of the Italian army along the Piave.

Near the Adriatic the Piave and Sile rivers are contained in canals running through land at or below sea level and which stretches for many miles along the Adriatic from the Venetian lagoon. With the rivers allowed to flow unchecked it would appear to make Austro-German efforts in this region barren of results.

Straightening Out Lines.

In the mountains between Asiago and the Piave the great pressure of the invaders has not brought great results. On the Asiago plateau the Italians are straightening out their line gradually and it is here that the Austro-Germans have progressed slightly. These gains, however, apparently have not been of great strategic value and the danger of the Piave line being outflanked although still present, probably has not become serious enough to cause any changes in the Italian plans. The Teuton pressure between

the Sugana valley and the Piave is very strong but the Italians have been able to check violent attacks at various points along the sector.

Fresh Austro-German attempts to cross the Piave have been rendered futile by the Italian defense. The Italians are holding in check those troops which crossed near Zenson and in the marsh-land near the Piave the invaders had been unable to make any progress in the face of Italian counter attacks and artillery fire previous to the opening of the flood gates.

Inundated Territory Forms
Triangle 12 Miles Each Way

Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Nov. 15. (Delayed.)—(By the Associated Press.)—The flood gates of the Piave and Sile, or old Piave, rivers have been opened by Italian military engineers and the enemy is now faced by another year of inundation. The flood was loosed at the point where the enemy succeeded in crossing the Piave near Grisleria (four miles from the coast) and the whole region where he gained lodgment is now under water. The inundated territory forms a huge triangle about 12 miles on each side with the apex at

Donna Di Piave. The enemy had been driven back but still held on within this triangle until the dykes from both rivers released the water over the low-lying plain. The chief menace at that point was that the enemy might be able to approach Venice through the lagoon or bombard the city from his position between the rivers. The inundation interposes a barrier of 12 miles across and several feet deep. Reports which have reached headquarters from other points on the front are also favorable.

SIBERT NOW HAS
FIVE SONS IN ARMY

With the American Army in France, Nov. 16.—Major-General Sibert's fifth son is now in the army. Two of his sons are captains, one is a lieutenant and one a West Point cadet, and the general instructed his fifth and youngest son to keep away for the present. He has been advised, however, that his youngest son felt he could keep out of the army no longer. He has just enlisted as a private.

GIANTS AND INDIANS TO
PLAY EXHIBITION GAME

Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 16.—The Cleveland Americans will play a series of exhibition games with the New York Giants during the latter part of the 1918 training trip in the south. The Cleveland team will train at New Orleans, while the Giants will get their preliminary work at Marlin, Texas. The two teams will meet at Dallas and play there and at Houston, New Orleans, Memphis, Chattanooga, Louisville, Indianapolis and Columbus. The dates have not been designated.

Escort to British Tank. New York, Nov. 16.—Armed American troops today are invading Canada but the "invasion" is a peaceful one, the troops comprising Battery A, of the New York field artillery, acting as an escort to the British tank, which is to feature victory loan parades in Ottawa and play there and at Houston, New Orleans, Memphis, Chattanooga, Louisville, Indianapolis and Columbus. The dates have not been designated.

Fire Did \$75,000 Damages. Richmond, Va., Nov. 16.—Fire originating in the business section of Mineral, Louisiana county, early today destroyed a bank, four stores and damaged as many structures, while menacing other property entailing a loss of about \$75,000. The cause of the fire is not known.

U-BOAT MENACE NOT
DEFEATED, SAYS GEDDES

London, Nov. 16.—In reply to a question in the house of commons today, Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of the admiralty, said: "The good return of tonnage sinking by enemy submarines last week and indeed the comparatively favorable result of the last two months ought not to be taken as indicating that the submarine menace is a thing of the past, or defeated."

Sir Eric recalled his recent speech in the house of commons in which he said the enemy's attack on British trade was being held but had not been defeated, that the Germans were building submarines faster than the British were destroying them, but without improved methods he looked for the eventual defeat of this menace.

He also reminded his hearers he had said mercantile marine tonnage was not being maintained against the depredations of submarines.

PHILADELPHIA MAYOR
CLEARED OF CHARGES

Philadelphia, Pa., Nov. 16.—Mayor Smith was cleared of all connection with the political conspiracy which resulted in the killing of a policeman here on primary election day, in an opinion by Judge Martin yesterday in quarter sessions court. But the mayor was held under his own recognizance to await the action of the grand jury with William Finley, a political lieutenant of the Vares, on the technical charge of conspiracy to murder. Finley's bail was reduced from \$10,000 which was originally imposed, to \$500.

To Lunch With King and Queen. London, Nov. 16.—The members of the American mission to the inter-allied conference were invited to Buckingham palace this afternoon for luncheon with the king and queen.

Believed Ship Lost.

Washington, Nov. 16.—The American steamer Kansas City is believed to have been lost at sea. "Nothing has been heard of her since she was separated from her convoy in a storm on September 5."

The only person aboard of whom the navy has record is J. H. A. Muir, whose parents live at 26 Mary Mount Road, Roland Park, Md., a suburb of Baltimore.

The following statement was issued: "The navy department has received no information on the steamer Kansas City since she was reported separated from her convoy September 5. She is now believed to have been lost at sea."

J. H. A. Muir, first class signal man, assigned to duty on the Kansas City, was the only navy man aboard. His next of kin is his father, John Allison Muir, 26 Mary Mount Road, Roland Park, Md."

NO DIRECT NEWS
FROM PETROGRAD

Reports That Bolsheviks Are In Control of Capital and That Kerensky's Troops Are In Flight

Communication with Petrograd again has been restored but no direct news has been received from the Russian capital. The Bolsheviks are still in control in Petrograd while Premier Kerensky's troops are reported to be in flight and again to be marching on the Bolshevik stronghold. Efforts of the socialists to arrange a settlement with the Bolsheviks and to bring about a new coalition government have failed. Other reports say that the maximalist leaders, Lenin and Trotsky are losing their popularity.

The Bolsheviks in Moscow are reported to have been defeated completely in street fighting which claimed 2,000 lives. Heavy fighting has occurred at Kiev where the Cossacks were said to have arrived several days ago.

Nothing New in Dispatches.

Washington, Nov. 16.—Dispatches from Ambassador Francis, at Petrograd, dated November 12, arrived today, but contained nothing not already reported in news dispatches cables and in fact described the situation as it was presented in the news dispatches of that date when fighting was in progress in Petrograd, and the Bolsheviks had not been ousted by Premier Kerensky's forces as later dispatches have indicated.

Ambassador Francis reported he had no written or oral communication with the Bolshevik government. His message was the first received since November 8, although it stated that he had filed cable reports every day. Fighting was in progress in the streets and he said, the telegraph and telephone offices had changed hands several times.

The ambassador had no knowledge of the situation outside of Petrograd.

The Increase in Prices. Washington, Nov. 16.—Prices of meat animals—hogs, cattle, sheep and chickens—were 62.2 per cent higher on October 15, than a year ago, \$7.3 per cent higher than two years ago, and \$9.1 per cent higher than the average of the last seven years on that date, the department of agriculture today announced.

At Government Prices. Washington, Nov. 16.—Coal jobbers and wholesalers were prohibited by the fuel administration today from selling coal at prices "subject to revision." Hereafter all sales must be made at the government price without any provision for revision.

German Commander
Who Sank the Lusitania

CARL-LIEUT. SCHWABEN

SOME AMERICAN
REPRESENTATIVES AT
ALLIED WAR COUNCIL

COL. E. M. HOUSE



VANNE C. MCCORMICK

REAR ADMIRAL W. S. DICKSON

REV. J. T. TERRY WILL
GO ON TRIAL TODAY

Russellville, Ala., Nov. 16.—The Rev. J. T. Terry, former pastor of the Russellville Methodist church and active in Alabama Methodism for several years, was to be placed on trial here today for the killing of Dr. T. M. Hughes, whose lifeless body was found lying beside a road near here on October 3, within a short distance of Terry, who himself was in a serious condition as the result of two bullet wounds.

The authorities thus far have been unable to learn whether Terry shot himself after Dr. Hughes was killed or whether he received the wounds in a duel with the physician. The men had left here apparently for a hunting trip and so far as has been learned the trouble developed after they reached the country. The minister thus far has refused to discuss the affair.

Terry's defense will be insanity.

NORTHCLEFFE REFUSES
PLACE IN THE CABINET

Lord Northcliffe, newspaper proprietor and head of the British mission to the United States, has declined to become head of the new air ministry in the British cabinet. His refusal, he explained in a letter to the premier, Lloyd-George, is due to dissatisfaction with some of the methods of the premier's administration.

Lord Northcliffe is dissatisfied, he says, with regard to the present relations with the United States, which country he intimates may have to take control of allied war activities.

Discuss Charges.

Atlanta, Nov. 16.—Papers dealing with recent changes in baccalaureate requirements had the master's degree were subjects before the session here today of the 23rd annual meeting of the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in the southern states. Reports of special committees were to be delivered and officers for the ensuing year were to be elected at the concluding session this afternoon.

Discussing "War Savings" Campaign.

Washington, Nov. 16.—State directors of the war savings campaign in session here today, discussed methods for bringing home to the American people the vital lesson of war time thrift. A call on President Wilson at the White House was one of the features of the day's program.

M. E. CONFERENCE
REFUSED TO ABIDE
BY "DEAD LINE"

New Preacher Admitted Despite Age and Lack of Educational Qualifications

BISHOP ADDRESSES
YOUNG MINISTERS

F. M. Weaver First Elected
Delegate to General Conference—Election Is On

With no necessity of a count of the vote, the Methodist conference this morning declined to abide by the "dead line" in the admission of a preacher into full connection, the feature of a very interesting and busy session.

According to the law of the church, every applicant for admission must reach certain educational qualifications, and yet the same law permits the conference to admit when those qualifications have not been met if the applicant receives a two-thirds vote. The question came squarely before the Western North Carolina conference when the name of Christopher Columbus Williams, of Thomasville, was presented by Presiding Elder Boyer, of the Winston district. The committee on examination announced that the applicant was 53 years old, married, having four children and three of them married, but that in the matter of educational qualifications he did not pass. Dr. Atkins for the committee on examination, advised acceptance under the rule of a two-thirds vote.

It was made clear that the applicant had been for years an active worker, a man whose time and money had been consecrated to the cause and that he was a worthy candidate, whose conscience led him to ask for admittance into the ministry. Rev. Dr. Boyer, with others, heartily endorsed the application. Presiding Elder Barnhardt opposed the action and was joined by others who thought that it would not do "to let down the bars." The discussion was gentle in expression but clear and pronounced. Finally the bishop called for the question and when those in favor of the admittance of Mr. Williams stood so apparent that Bishop Atkins remarked "the vote is for admission, there is no need of making the count."

It was a decided question. The statement that "city" boys years ago connected for a man to begin to do a work" had been answered by a pronounced negative.

Seven Young Ministers Received.

In addressing seven young men who were received into the full traveling connection, Bishop Atkins, in gentleness of spirit and tenderness of expression gave them suggestive advice. They are not to place any confidence in the applause of the people, for the reason that those who are the least competent to judge very often praise the more ardently. They were to remember that youth was not always the period of the largest and most successful endeavor but was rather the period of intense preparation for greater good. Those who have realized and gathered statistics insist that only one per cent of the world's greatest work has been accomplished by men whose age is under 40. Between 40 and 50 the percentage is 18. Between 50 and 60 it is 35 per cent, between 60 and 70 it is 35 per cent and above 80 it is 23 per cent and above 90 it is 6 per cent.

Bishop Atkins reminded the candidates that the world war now in progress has demonstrated the fact that when men of the greatest ability are needed to do things, the old men, as they are termed, are called into service.

One marked feature of the reports of the committee on admission of candidates to the ministry was that in every case the candidate was required to pledge that he would not use tobacco.

Opening Exercises.

The opening devotional exercises of the third day's session of the twenty-ninth session of the Western North Carolina Conference were led by Rev. Dr. H. M. Dubose, editor of the Sunday School board of the Methodist Episcopal church, South. Dr. Dubose is located at Nashville.

Election Delegates to General Conference.

One of the events of the conference which is always awaited with interest is the election of the delegates to the General conference. The honor of representing the Western North Carolina conference is no mean honor. The conference is entitled to twelve delegates, six from the ministry and six from the ranks of the laymen.

F. M. Weaver Elected. The election was the order of the day following the admission of applicants. This election is by ballot. The first ballot for lay-delegates resulted in the election of F. M. Weaver, of Asheville; C. H. Ireland, of Greensboro; F. S. Lambeth, of Thomasville,

MUCH FIRING IN THE
AMERICAN SECTOR

With the American Army in France, Nov. 15. (Delayed.)—(By the Associated Press.)—There have been further encounters between American patrols and Germans in No-Man's-Land. Last night there were a number of clashes, but the night was dark and shovely and the firing was at a distance. There were no American casualties. The German-placed machine guns in several craters sprayed streams of bullets on our communicating trenches. The American artillery hurled shells from 75's at the positions and silenced the enemy.

American patrols have worked up to the German wire entanglements. The artillery fire day and night continues lively.

and Dorman Thompson, of Statesville. A second ballot was necessary to select the remaining two delegates. Dr. Dubose Speaks. The tiredness of the election was broken by the address of Rev. Dr. H. M. Dubose, of Nashville, book editor of the publication board of the Methodist Episcopal church, South. Dr. Dubose is a unique speaker. He enjoys a vocabulary unusual and his audience appreciated the frequent use of very rare words, used by the speaker with telling effect. Dr. Dubose spoke in the interest of the publishing work of the church.

Second Ballot. The second ballot for the selection of lay delegates resulted in the election of J. B. Ivory, of Charlotte. A third ballot was necessary to select the remaining delegates. The third ballot resulted in the election of A. C. Reynolds, of Cullowhee.

E. A. Cole, of Charlotte, presented the claims of Jonathana assembly.

Admitted Into Full Connection. The following were admitted into full connection by the conference: H. G. Allen, T. P. Jamison, J. Fred Stillwell, John Cline, Fred H. Price, G. H. Kennington, Marcus B. Woolsey, Martin W. Heckard, Geo. W. Clay, McKinley Gladstone Erwin, Roy Lincoln Foster, David E. Clark, Jesse H. Lanning, H. R. Deal, James W. Fitzgerald, Charles O'Dell Kennerly, James B. Fitzgerald, E. L. Shelton, Daniel G. Wilson, Christopher Columbus Williams.

These Re-Admitted.

The following were readmitted: William Cecil Jones, James D. Rankin.

Traveling Preachers Received.

The following traveling preachers were received from other denominations: George F. Wright, six years in the Baptist denomination; Robert A. Snider, former Methodist Protestant denomination.

Into Full Traveling Connection.

The following were received into the full traveling connection: R. S. Abernathy, J. W. Bennett, T. V. Crockett, D. V. Howell, R. L. Tabis, C. A. Johnson, M. A. Osborne.

The following received from other conferences: C. R. Canipe, from South Carolina conference.

The following received from other churches as local preachers: B. Boone G. McMillan, Ollie Jones, from the Missionary Baptist church.

Deacons Elected.

The following preachers were elected deacons of one year: Fredericks W. Cook, Ernest J. Harbison, Leonard B. Hayes, Marion W. Mann, Joseph W. Vestal, D. H. Rhinehart, Robert L. Ferguson remains in this class.

The following traveling preachers were elected deacons: A. S. Abernathy, T. V. Crockett, R. L. Tabis, D. V. Howell, C. A. Johnson, M. A. Osborne.

The following local preachers were elected deacons: James Boyd Fitzgerald, Joseph A. Snow, Walter Blaine Thompson, James Russell Warren.

Elders Elected. The following traveling preachers were elected elders: Dwight W. Brown, Thomas J. Folger, James P. Morris, Neil C. Williams.

The following traveling preachers were elected elders: Robert Smith, Nyles Henry, Francis Stover.

The class of the second year was called and Avery S. Abernathy, Thomas Virgil Crouse, Robert Lee Forbis, David V. Howell, Carl Anderson Johnson and Moffatt Alexander Osborne were elected deacons and advanced to the class of the third year.

John Wesley Bennett, a deacon, and William A. Jenkins, an elder, were advanced to the class of the third year.

James Russell Warren, J. B. Fitzgerald, Walter Blaine Thompson and Joseph A. Snow were elected to local deacons' orders.

Henry Frances Dodge and Robert Smith Kyles were elected to local elders' orders. James P. Morris, Neil C. Williams, Dwight W. Brown and Thomas J. Folger, deacons of one year, were elected to elders.

H. G. Allen, J. H. Green, Guy Hamilton, T. J. Higgins, E. L. Kirk, T. P. Mauden, W. L. Scott, J. L. Smith, J. C. Umberger, J. E. B. Houser were advanced to the class of the second year.

Fred W. Cook, Ernest B. Harbison, L. B. Hayes, Marion W. Mann, Joseph W. Vestal, D. H. Rhinehart, were advanced to the class of the third year.

During the afternoon yesterday Dr. H. M. Du Bose, book editor of the church, delivered an interesting address. The anniversary meeting of the school board was held last night, with Rev. Dr. C. W. Byrd, president of the board, presiding, Rev. Dr. E. B. (Continued on Page 2)

COLORED SCHOOL IS
DESTROYED BY FIRE
AND PUPILS HURT

Catholic Hill School Burned at Noon Today—Unknown Origin

TWO FIREMEN ARE
SLIGHTLY INJURED

Injured Children Taken To
Mission Hospital—One
Child Is Missing

Fire of unknown origin at Catholic Hill school for colored students today totally destroyed the building and injured several of the students. It is feared that some of the children were caught by the flames and lost their lives, but it will take some time to check up the class rolls and locate all the students who were in the schoolhouse. Two of the students are in the Mission hospital badly burned but not thought to be in critical condition; one is reported to have jumped from a window and sustained injuries, but this child could not be located at 12:30 today.

The fire spread with incredible speed and fierceness and when the alarm came in to the fire station the flames had gained great headway. From the confused reports available while the fire was raging it appeared that the building was filled with smoke and fire before the alarm was given in the school. Teachers attempting to form their grades into fire-drill formation were met with panic-stricken students who dashed for doors in some cases or jumped desperately from the windows.

The building stands on a hill above Valley street and it took several minutes to drag the hose up in range of the fire but in a few minutes after the alarm came in three or four lines were playing on the house. Fanned by a strong north wind, however, the flames ate steadily from one floor to another and were soon bursting through the roof. A residence house nearby also caught and the firemen shortly before 1 o'clock were fighting to save the other houses near the school.

Frantic mothers searched madly through the crowds of men, women and children scattered over Catholic Hill and Valley street in the effort to find their children; but it will be hours before they know whether or not the search is in vain.

This is the most disastrous fire in the city since 1915. The building is insured, but the loss will be considerable.

Ernest Ingram was one of the children who was badly burned. The names of the others could not be learned at 1 o'clock.

Fireman J. W. Jeanneret suffered an injury early in the fight to save the schoolhouse, one hand being badly burned.

It is believed that only the excellent discipline in most of the class rooms saved the school from a frightful casualty list. It is stated that some of the students were slightly burned as they marched out in good order.

Francis Ingram, a boy, was injured in a window and broke one leg. Elizabeth Brown was badly burned about the head. Hazel Harris, aged 7, is missing.

J. C. Fittz, fireman, was injured in a leg and foot.

The walls of the building fell in about 12:30 o'clock.

It is reported that the fire was first seen from the city market and that the alarm was turned in by somebody at the market.

U. D. C. OFFICERS MAKE
REPORTS TO CONVENTION

Chattanooga, Nov. 16.—The general convention of the Daughters of the Confederacy did little more than elect the rest of the roster of officers this morning. With the conclusion of this order of business the convention resumed its business program which includes the reading of reports of the custodian of badges, Mrs. L. M. Bushinsky; confederate museum, Mrs. John Mason; executive committee, Mrs. F. G. Odenheimer; history, Mrs. Grace Newbill; education, Miss Mary B. Poppenheim; the award of the university prize for confederate essay, by Mrs. Livingston Rowe Schuyler; emblems and mottoes, Mrs. I. W. Falcon; relief work, Mrs. Herman Randolph; and introduction work, Mrs. Norman Randolph, and introduction of resolutions.

The visitors were guests of honor at a noon luncheon by the Kosmos club and then they will be honored with a grand ball tonight.